

Substantial Amendment to the State of Utah 2005-2010 Consolidated Plan For the Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program (HPRP)

Purpose of the Consolidated Plan

The United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) requires a five year Consolidated Plan from all jurisdictions receiving annual HUD assistance grants. The plan establishes the goals, objectives and strategies the State of Utah will use to administer the federal grant programs, and commits the State to spend its federal funds to benefit its very low-, low-, and moderate-income residents.

Substantial Amendment to the 2005-2010 Consolidated Plan

In order to be eligible to receive funds under the Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program (HPRP) the State is required to complete a substantial amendment to its Consolidated Plan. This proposed amendment will incorporate the HPRP funds and establish goals, objectives and strategies the State will use to distribute and administer these funds.

Homeless Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program Description

The HPRP program is a three-year grant focused on housing for homeless and at-risk households. It will provide temporary financial assistance and housing relocation and stabilization services to individuals and families who are homeless or would be but for this assistance. The funds under this program are intended to target two populations of persons facing housing insecurity:

- 1) Individuals and families who are currently in housing but are at risk of becoming homeless and need temporary rent, utility assistance, or assistance moving to another unit to prevent them from becoming homeless (Prevention)
- 2) Individuals and families who are experiencing homelessness (residing in emergency or transitional shelters or on the street) and need temporary assistance in order to obtain housing and retain it (Rapid Re-housing)

Categories of assistance include:

- Financial Assistance – Short-term and medium rental assistance, security and utility deposits, moving costs and storage costs assistance and motel and hotel vouchers
- Housing Relocation and Stabilization Services – Case management, outreach and engagement, housing search and placement, legal services and credit repair services

- Data Collection and Evaluation – Costs of collecting and reporting data under the Homeless Management Information System
- Administrative Costs – Costs related to administering the grant are limited to 5% of the grant award

Citizen Participation and Public Comment

The Utah Division of Housing and Community Development (HCD) posted its plan on its website (www.housing.utah.gov/scso) for public comment on May 4, 2009 and is allowing for public comment until May 18, 2009 at 12:00 p.m. In addition, a public hearing on the plan is scheduled for Tuesday May 12, 2009 at 2:00pm at 324 S. State St., Suite 500, Salt Lake City, UT 84111. Public comment will be received in writing at the aforementioned address, verbally at the hearing, and via electronic comment on the website.

Consolidated Plan Goals

According to the Consolidated Plan adopted by the state of Utah, funds are to be used for seven specific Housing Action Plan Priorities. One of the main priorities reads as follows:

– Create housing solutions to implement the “10 Year Plan for the Elimination of Chronic Homelessness” and provide housing for other homeless or persons at risk of becoming homeless.

In following this priority HPRP funds will be used to help meet the goal of eliminating homelessness, most specifically to rapidly re-house those individuals and families who have recently become homeless and working to prevent individuals and families from becoming homeless. By focusing a large portion of funds to homeless prevention the Division of Housing will continue to meet this priority by actively working to keep those who would fall into homelessness housed and stable, thus successfully working to eliminate homelessness in the state of Utah.

Distribution and Administration of Funds

To avoid duplication of services offered under the HPRP grant the HCD will use a formula to set amounts for counties and or regions of counties across the state. The following are the regions under the formula:

- Salt Lake County
- Davis County
- Weber County
- Tooele County
- Mountainland Region (Utah, Wasatch, Summit Counties)
- Uintah Basin Region (Uintah, Duchesne, Daggett Counties)
- Five County Region (Washington, Kane, Iron, Beaver, Garfield Counties)
- Six County Region (Millard, Sanpete, Sevier, Juab, Wayne, Piute Counties)
- Southeastern Region (Carbon, Emery, Grand, San Juan Counties)
- Bear River Region (Rich, Cache, Box Elder Counties)

The full formula process will take into account two parts with unique steps and takes into account all HPRP funding to all eligible jurisdictions of HPRP funds within the state.

For Prevention

1. Begin with the net available resources for prevention activities statewide.
2. Restore any prevention funds previously available through other funding sources administered by HCD, but no longer available through those sources.
3. Analyze the needs based distribution of the remaining prevention portion of the grant. HMIS has identified where people originate before they become homeless by using the last permanent zip code prior to homelessness. This is the most objective formula to show who becomes literally homeless and what areas are at greatest risk of homelessness.
4. Net out other funding available through HPRP entitlement areas and fully reconcile available funding. (it is anticipated that Provo City's allotment based on need will be negative and will require an adjustment to the other areas based on the statewide formula).

For Rapid Re-Housing

1. Begin with the net available resources for rapid re-housing statewide.
2. Analyze the needs based distribution of the rapid re-housing portion of the grant. Data from the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) will be used to determine where clients who become homeless, present within the homeless system in the state.
3. Net out other funding available through HPRP entitlement areas and fully reconcile available funding. (it anticipated that Provo City's allotment based on need will be negative and will require an adjustment to the other areas based on the statewide formula)

Selection of Subgrantees

Where available, agencies providing prevention or rapid re-housing activities for HCD will be chosen as eligible subgrantees provided they are in good standing. In areas of the state where no specific agency provides these services, competitive applications will be solicited.

Monitoring of HPRP Funds

Monitoring by HCD will occur regularly and be focused on the following objectives:

- Timely Expenditure of Funds
- Achievement of goals for per the program objectives and targets
- Funds spent in accordance with contracted budget and scope of work.

These performance measures will be monitored at least quarterly through desktop reviews. On site reviews will occur at least once annually.

All reports required by HUD and by HCD will be submitted in a timely basis and follow up will be concluded on each report submitted.

Collaboration Efforts

As part of its collaborative effort, HCD has organized and formed the Centralized Intake Task Force. This group includes Utah's Department of Workforce Services, Department of Human Services, and representatives from each continuum of care within the state. This group has met to streamline process for assistance of homeless individuals and families. Its core objectives include creating a virtual centralized intake system for each area of the state to point individuals and families at any entry point to available assistance. This includes coordination with mainstream resources such as TANF, Food Stamps, Medicaid, SSI/SSDI and the State's General Assistance. All potential ARRA partners will be identified and incorporated as part of this virtual centralized intake process.

The objective across the state is to have limited agencies administering the assistance, but multiple access points of service to individuals and families. This will allow for the most efficient administration of the program and provide for the most coordination of other resources for those in need.

Estimated Budget Summary

HPRP Estimated Budget Summary			
	Homelessness Prevention	Rapid Re-housing	Total Amount Budgeted
Financial Assistance ¹	\$ 936,216	\$ 2,184,504	\$ 3,120,720
Housing Relocation and Stabilization Services ²	\$ 360,000	\$ 840,000	\$ 1,200,000
Subtotal (add previous two rows)	\$ 1,296,216	\$ 3,024,504	\$ 4,320,720

Data Collection and Evaluation ³	\$ 450,001
Administration (up to 5% of allocation)	\$ 251,090
Total HPRP Amount Budgeted⁴	\$ 5,021,811